This is a copy of the article, "CHILD ABUSE, SATANISM AND WITCHCRAFT WRONGLY LINKED," from Volume 1, Number 1, "Witches League for Public Awareness," January, 1987, by Christine Dumas.

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"Last month (November 1986), on of our networking members, PRAIRIE WIND, sent us an urgent mailing containing a confidential report by Officer Sandi Gallant of the San Francisco Police Department. This report contained definitions of Witches as worshippers of Satan, and other connections between Witchcraft and Satanism.

"Attached to the police report, which was originally for departmental use only in investigating crimes of a 'satanic' nature involving child abuse, was a psychological study of satanic child abuse written by Clinical Pathologist Catherine Gould Ph.d of Brentwood and Encino, CA. The report further circulated, unauthorized, by the Director of a child abuse agency at a large conference on child abuse which took place in the Midwest.

"I called Officer Gallant, who was helpful and courteous. She said that she knew nothing about this report being distributed at any conferences, and that she was well-aware of the differences between Satanism and Witchcraft. She has worked with San Francisco Witches, such as Valerie Voight, editor of 'Pagana,' and with other members of the Covenant of the Goddess (C. O. G.). A phone call to a C. O. G. member confirmed this.

"Officer Gallant has also sent us a tape of a speech she makes concerning satanic crimes, and she clearly makes the distinction between Witchcraft and Satanism. She does not stress this difference as much as we would like, but I was told this is because she does not want her audiences to get involved in theological discussions. She does stress Satanism as the focal point of her talk, but she still makes some mistakes, such as defining a 'warlock' as a male witch. She told me that she used the terms 'witch' and 'Satanist' interchangeably because many Satanists define themselves as Witches. Also her report was not meant to leave the police station.

"She says also that, 'I too, am concerned about mis-labeling, and share your desire for correct informational dissemination. Once again however, I must stress that many fringe people do incorporate a combination of terms and belief systems. In the long run, this (her report) is helpful, although I am sure distressing to you. It is helpful because we can automatically rule out organized groups, knowing they will not combine belief systems.'

"The name of the man who was distributing this report has been sent to the San Francisco Police Department, as the original was copyrighted, and he is in violation of this copyright.. Hopefully, they will do something about this.

"It is not clear what part, if any, Catherine Gould played in this unauthorized distribution. Her report may have been usurped by the

man involved, or she may have been a willing participant in the unauthorized distribution of this misleading information. When I asked Officer Gallant about Ms Gould, she replied, 'Oh her! She never bothers to point out the differences between Witchcraft and Satanism.'

"As PRAIRIE WIND points out, 'We are not out of the woods yet. This report HAS (caps, mine: *rcp*) gone to child abuse agencies around the country, and it looks like it has the endorsement of a Ph.d as well as a director of a well-respected child abuse agency AND a major police department.' She says further, 'If you discover that a police department or abuse agency has this report, encourage (or demand if necessary), that these people personally contact Officer Gallant and get this mess straightened out.'

"Also, let us know if this report surfaces in your area. Our thinks to PRAIRIE WIND for her time and energy spent in bringing this to our attention."